Date: Fri, 6 Aug 93 04:30:07 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #953
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest   Fri, 6 Aug 93   Volume 93 : Issue 953

Today's Topics:
                  Automatic Packet Reporting System
                         Emergency Power Off
                  Emergency Power Off - wire colors

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 5 Aug 93 19:04:53 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Automatic Packet Reporting System
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>
>   There have been a couple articles over the past 2 months in QST
> that concerned the Automatic Packet Reporting System. The APRS allows one
> to connect the NMEA-0183 output of a LORAN-C or GPS receiver to a packet
> system such that the location of the packet station is constantly reported
> to a remote location where the location is displayed in real-time on a map.
>
>   The article (don't have the reference handy at the moment) gave a
> name and address to obtain the software (shareware). It also stated that it
> was available on several non-specified BBS systems. Does anyone know if it
> is available via FTP on the net? I've checked most of the FTP servers that
> carry HAM related info that I know about, but so far haven't found it.
>
>   Thanks,
>   Ray WB6TPU

>
To answer the last question first, it is available by ftp on:
rahul.net   in the pub/davidj/radio directory.

In answer to the question that wasn't asked, the APRS software is not,
as suggested above used to interface the LORAN or GPS NMEA output to
packet, but instead reads such information put on packet by others, and
indicates on a map where the transmitting station is. The software is
also useful as a local "chat" type network. It is used in the DC-Balt area
very sucessfully. Each station using the software serves as a digipeater
for the other stations (each station sets mya to either "relay" or "wide").
All communications are done with a map of the area on the screen, and as
new stations come on line they pop up on the map. Pretty neat.
Back to how the NMEA info gets on packet, if you use a programable prototype
board, where you can specify what NMEA phrase is desired, all you have to
do is set your tnc in conv mode, and hook up the NMEA output directly to
the TNC (you need to set the time interval so that packets are transmitted
only once every few minutes) (also, you need to set your unproto so that
unproto packets are addressed to aprs via either relay or wide). In my case,
I had a commercial GPS that put out about 8 different NMEA phrases every
2 seconds. I had to use a laptop computer to pick out the proper phase,
and output it to the tnc every couple of minutes. This can be done with
only 1 com port btw. Once this is done, when I drive to or from work, my
location is sent out over packet, and my wife (and anyone else on the
system) can see where I am on the map (not sure if this is good or bad).
APRS works best on a freq with little or no other
traffic, and is worth investigating. It has been used to track the
carrying of the army-navy football, the Tour du Pont bike race, and the
Cycle across Md event, among other things. BTW, I have no connection with
it other than being a happy user of it.   BJ n3jlq

Date: 5 Aug 1993 17:43:17 GMT
From: digex.com!access.digex.net!dale@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Emergency Power Off
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

James Bach (c2xjcb@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com) wrote:

: On a (somewhat) related topic . . .

: Who WAS the (expletive deleted) genius who chose Black for the "HOT"
: wire and White for the "Neutral" (which is, for most intents and
: purposes, "ground")? Didn't that person ever look down at his feet to
: notice what color Ground was? It sure looks a lot more "black" than

: "white" to me? At least he chose Green for "Ground" (he must have
: mowed his grass that day).

: Why couldn't he have chosen the "wise" colors that most of the
: electronics industry seems to have accepted:

: Black = Ground
: Red = "hot" or "power"

The Standard in the US (and a substantial part of the western world) is
for alternating current only:

earth ground = grounding conductor = safety ground:
green or green with one or more yellow stripes insulated wire, a bare
copper wire, or metallic conduit.

Neutral = grounded conductor: (note difference of ...ed vs. ...ing)
a white or gray insulated conductor. May have colored threads woven in
the insulation for circuit id (rarely seen anywhere but industrial sites)

hot leads :
insulated conductors of any color but green, gray or white.
used for power leads.

The convention in DC power seems to be black = negative, red or white
positive. I am not sure if there is any actual regulating standard for
this.

     As to that poor soul who just wanted some advice on how to make
his shack a little safer. Go down to your town's or city's building
inspection electrical inspector's office. find out the following things:

1: Can you (not a licenced electrician) do some or all of the work?
     Commonly you will have to get a licenced electrician to pull a
     permit and approve the wiring plan. and to inspect and make
     final connections to the building wiring. You can do the
     actual installation yourself. If the electrician is feeling
     cooperative he/she may buy the materials for you (at contractors
     discount) The only unusual items would be the mushroom switches
     and the boxes for them. Everything else is very standard.

2: What exactly is the electric code for your place.
     For example Washington DC uses the 1984 NEC with an addendum,
     not the 87, 90, or '93 codes.
Get a copy if you are going to plan it yourself. That will set you back
about 20-30 bucks. Or pay an electrician to plan it for you.

3: Auxilliury generators have *LOTS* of hairy regulations attached to having them. Find out what they are. This is something I would absolutely have an electrician do for you. Not to mention the issues of fuel storage, exhaust venting, noise control, vibration isolation, etc... Look into local zoning and noise control ordinances. closely.

4: How much does the city charge for a permit? The inspection?

And some free advice, worth more than you paid for it.
when you plan your installation, you are going to find out how much power you are going to draw to size out breakers, switches, wires, etc... Assume a generous margin for growth in the future, and add it to the power estimates as "future growth" size the wiring from your service for the increased load. Have a grossly oversized ground conductor run, and wire some of your outlets as isolated ground recepticales. This will make a lot of interference problems in your shack go away. It is more expensive though.

Read the chapters in the NEC about computer rooms, isolated ground systems, in addition to the obvious chapters. Look at the exceptions chapters, one may apply to you.

Good luck and be careful.

--Dale Farmer

Date: 5 Aug 93 20:25:09 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Emergency Power Off - wire colors
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

James Bach comments:
>Who WAS the (explitive deleted) genius who chose Black for the "HOT" >wire and White for the "Neutral" (which is, for most intents and >purposes, "ground")? Didn't that person ever look down at his feet to >notice what color Ground was? It sure looks a lot more "black" than >"white" to me? At least he chose Green for "Ground" (he must have >mowed his grass that day).

>Why couldn't he have chosen the "wise" colors that most of the >electronics industry seems to have accepted:

I worked as an electrician for a short period and asked pretty much the same question because it didn't fit the wire color logic used in electronics. The answer that I got was that all wires, except green and white, are colors and

are used to designate power "hot" circuits. All colors are then used for
switched power and the specific color allows the discrimination between
circuits with BLACK being "hot" at all times.

Date: (null)
From: (null)
73
Hugh Wells, W6WTU

Date: Thu, 5 Aug 1993 16:52:26 GMT
From: news.acns.nwu.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!swrinde!gatech!kd4nc!ke4zv!
gary@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Aug5.033805.751@w8hd.org>, <23r0c1$beo@cville-srv.wam.umd.edu>,
<1993Aug5.132058.28535@rsg1.er.usgs.gov>
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman)
Subject : Re: Bootlegger At ARRL N.E. Convention

In article <1993Aug5.132058.28535@rsg1.er.usgs.gov> bodoh@dgg.cr.usgs.gov (Tom
Bodoh) writes:
>In article <23r0c1$beo@cville-srv.wam.umd.edu>, ham@wam.umd.edu (Scott Richard
Rosenfeld) writes:
>|>
>|> I wish I could pull over everybody who tailgated me on my 8-mile trip
>|> to work. Just pop a little light on the roof, pop out, and say, "Look,
>|> Bud, I'm a cop, and you're putting me in danger, so I'm writing you this
>|> $100 ticket. Surprise!!! Have a nice day."
>
>Drive a beater (64 caddy should do), wear a helmet and slam on the brakes
>for a dog (jeez - didn't YOU see him?). Another good one is to slow down
>to really get them upset - so that they pull in closer, then tap the brakes
>enough to make the nose of your car dive - and at the same time floor it...
>I did this once and watched with amusement while the bozo locked em' up. I
>ran into him in a store not 5 minutes later and he was still shaking and
>apologetic...

Sounds like a good way to get shot to me. Leave the policing to the
police. They get paid to get shot at.

Gary
--
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary

534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | | |

Date: Thu, 5 Aug 1993 16:50:36 GMT
From: news.acns.nwu.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!kd4nc!
ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <memo.501486@cix.compulink.co.uk>, <1993Aug2.142739.29441@ke4zv.uucp>,
<1993Aug4.182253.4359@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com>
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman)
Subject : Re: Emergency Power Off

In article <1993Aug4.182253.4359@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com>
c2xjcb@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com (James Bach) writes:
>
>On a (somewhat) related topic . . .
>
>Who WAS the (explitive deleted) genius who chose Black for the "HOT"
>wire and White for the "Neutral" (which is, for most intents and
>purposes, "ground")? Didn't that person ever look down at his feet to
>notice what color Ground was? It sure looks a lot more "black" than
>"white" to me? At least he chose Green for "Ground" (he must have
>mowed his grass that day).

Black is the color of mourning, and you could get real dead fooling
with black wires. Unlike red and green, black and white are easily
distinguished by even the color blind. Making a mistake with green
and white isn't as serious as making a mistake with black.

>Every time I do wiring around the house I have to tell my self. . .
> "Bass Ackwards . . . Bass Ackwards" so that I remember correctly.

And every time an electrician gets around electronic wiring he has
to say the same thing to himself. And electricans came first. Why
didn't electronics follow the established standard?

Gary

--
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | | |

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #953
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